

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 IO-13 /067 W

-----010029Z 007802 /14

R 311516Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9399

INFO: AMEMBASSY SEOUL 0065

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1299

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GB, KN, KS

SUBJ: GABON AND THE TWO KOREAS

SUMMARY: GABONESE PRESIDENT BONGO HAS SENT TO USG THROUGH PRIVATE CHANNELS DOCUMENTS RELATING TO HIS RECENT VISIT TO PYONGYAND. ACTION REQUESTED: FEED-BACK ON CONTENTS WHEN RECEIVED AND ASSISTANCE IN RETURNING SUBJECT TO DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG MAY 16, PRESIDENT BONGO MENTIONED IN PASSING THAT HE HAD BROUGHT BACK FROM HIS PYONGYANG VISIT "GOOD NEWS" FOR US AND PROMISED COMMUNICATE DETAILS TO US IN NEAR FUTURE. HE ALSO MENTIONED IN SAME SESSION THAT HE HAD BEEN TOLD "BY PRESIDENT CARTER" THAT HE COULD COMMUNICATE CONFIDENTLY WITH USG EITHER THROUGH EMBASSY HERE OR THROUGH MAURICE TEMPLESMAN IN NEW YORK.

2. LOCAL TEMPLESMAN REPRESENTATIVE DAVID PARENT INFORMED ME MAY 31 THAT BONGO HAD CHOSEN LATTER ROUTE FOR INFORMATION STEMMING FROM HIS TRIP TO NORTH KOREA. ACCORDING TO PARENT, HE WAS CALLED IN BY BONGO MAY 26 AND HANDED TWO SEALED ENVELOPES ADDRESSED TO TEMPLESMAN AND TO PRESIDENT CARTER RESPECTIVELY AND ASKED TO CONFIDENTIAL

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TRANSMIT THEM URGENTLY TO TEMPLESMAN. PARENT TOOK ADVANTAGE OF TRAVEL BY VISITING US BUSINESSMAN TO SEND BOTH ENVELOPES TO NEW YORK BY SAFEHAND OVER PAST WEEK-END. AS HE RECEIVED ENVELOPES SEALED, HE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF THEIR CONTENTS.

3. PARENT SOUGHT AND RECEIVED PERMISSION FROM

TEMPLESMAN TO PROVIDE ME ABOVE INFORMATION, SUGGESTING THAT TEMPLESMAN ALMOST CERTAINLY INTENDS TO PASS BONGO MESSAGE THROUGH DEPARTMENT. WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED OF CONTENTS WHEN THESE BECOME AVAILABLE, AND WOULD WELCOME OPPORTUNITY TO CONVEY RESPONSE THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS.

4. FYI: LOCAL TEMPLESMAN REP MUCH PREFERS NOT TO BE INVOLVED IN ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE SCOPE OF HIS NORMAL COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATION AND HAS IMPLIED HIS BOSS FEELS LIKEWISE. THUS, DO NOT BELIEVE TEMPLESMAN WOULD BE DISPLEASED AT HAVING US TAKE THIS ONE OFF HIS HANDS. END FYI. STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: GABON AND THE TWO KOREAS SUMMARY: GABONESE PRESIDENT BONGO HAS SENT TO USG THROUGH PRIVATE CHANNELS DOCUMENTS RELATING TO HIS
TAGS: PFOR, GB, KN, KS, US, (BONGO, EL HADJ OMAR)
To: STATE SEOUL
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